

Appl. No. 10/091,035
Amdt. dated November 14, 2005
Reply to Final Office Action of January 10, 2005

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application are respectfully requested. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-6, 8-17, 19-28 and 30-51 will remain pending.

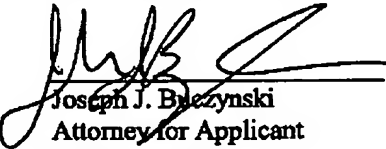
Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that dependent claims 7, 18 and 29 include allowable subject matter. However, in the final Office Action, claims 1-6, 11-17, 22-28 and 33-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,987,011 to Toh in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,491,837 to Haartsen. Furthermore, claims 8-10, 19-21 and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable the Toh and Haartsen patents in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,307,843 to Okanoue.

Although Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, to advance allowance of the application, independent claims 1, 12 and 23 are being amended to include the limitations of their respective allowable dependent claims 7, 18 and 29, which are being canceled. Accordingly, all claims should be allowable.

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In view of the above, it is believed that the subject application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested. However, should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Dated: November 14, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this AMENDMENT (along with any documents referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, Attention Examiner: Man U. PHAN, Art Unit 2665, Facsimile Number 571-273-8300, on the date shown below:

Dated: November 14, 2005


Lois Ann Borlase

DC01/494519.1